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Cass " (page 162) ; " Congressional Globe " (page 223) ; " New York Sun " (page 247) ; " Newspaper article " (page 280) ; " Personal information obtained from manager of telegraph line " (page 346). The author is to be congratulated upon the evidences of first-class literary ability which this book contains, and that its defects do not forbid future and more careful efforts.

FREDERIC BANCROFT.

Canada and the Canadian Question. By GOLDWIN SMITH,
D. C. L. London and New York, Macmillan, 1891.—325 pp.

Professor Goldwin Smith's general views as to the future of the Dominion of Canada are well known. By the operation of political gravity Canada must, it appears to him, fall into the United States. Geography ; commerce ; identity of race, language and institutions ; the mingling of population and constant intercourse of every kind, — these are, he thinks, the primal forces which are acting in ever-increasing intensity, and which have already brought about a general fusion between the two countries, leaving no barriers standing but the political and fiscal lines. One of these political lines he calls a "phantom monarchy" ; and he declares that if these primary forces are working toward an event, "sooner or later the crisis arrives, the man appears, the bidding of destiny is done."

With these general views Professor Smith has written an admirable book, not to prove them nor even to state them, but a book which will nevertheless leave them imprinted upon any one who reads it with an open mind. The scope and function of the work is best stated by the author himself :

For this purpose, which is neither elaborate description nor detailed history but the presentation of a case and of a problem, it seemed best, first, to delineate the Provinces which are the factors of the case ; then to sketch their political history leading up to the Confederation ; then to give an account of the Confederation itself, with its political sequel, up to the present time ; and finally to propound the problem.

All this Professor Smith has done ; and he has moreover done it in such a way as to make his work not only valuable to the students of political science but interesting to the general reader, — although he himself says, of a part of his subject (the British North America Act), that to impart anything like liveliness to it one must have the touch of Voltaire. It is a distinctive quality of the book that it is interesting. Until within a few years most Americans — could anything better illustrate the position of the Dominion than the fact that Canadians are never called Americans? — knew rather less about Canada than about the Sandwich Islands ; and this book will give to those who desire it a full and clear

notion of what Canada is and means, while to many Canadians it must reveal their manifest destiny.

Canada, though a colony, is not a dependency of Great Britain. Professor Smith puts the difference between the two distinctly. If he were writing controversially, he would doubtless emphasize even more than he does the fact that the views and arguments both of the Imperial Federationists at home and of the rampant (and, as he caustically suggests, snobbish) Loyalists of Canada are largely based on the assumption that the two are always the same.

It is easy to see that Professor Smith has run a tilt in his time with Sir John Macdonald, the late Premier of Canada. But he can afford to be generous; for he must be convinced that his views of the future of Canada, rather than those of that adroit politician, are true and must in the end prevail.

One of the most distinguished Englishmen who ever came to this country, speaking of his journey through Canada, said of its people and government that they were neither fish, flesh, fowl nor good red-herring; and the writer once heard Sir John Macdonald himself describe how Lord Salisbury had asked him why he came to leave Scotland for Canada, and how he had replied: "Is it not better, my Lord, to be the founder of a new nation than the prime minister of an old one?" The contempt of Canada underlying the first remark and the bumptiousness and inaccuracy of the second equally vanish before a book so full, so sober, so just—and if we believe in the sure working of the primal forces he describes we must add—so wise, as that which Professor Smith has written.

F. W. W.

Zur eigenen Lebensgeschichte. VON LEOPOLD VON RANKE.

Herausgegeben von ALFRED DOVE. Leipzig, Duncker und Humblot, 1890.—731 pp.

This volume closes the edition of the collected writings of Leopold von Ranke. It was the intention of the great historian to devote a special work to the events of his own life, viewed in connection with the general course of scientific and historical development during the nineteenth century. When startled in 1863 by the death of Jacob Grimm and other friends, he put in written form a sketch of his childhood and of his student life. This was followed in later years by dictations outlining his experiences as a teacher in the gymnasium at Frankfort on the Oder and parts of his subsequent career at Berlin. These are printed at the beginning of the present volume. The composition of the *Weltgeschichte*, however, prevented further autobiographical studies, and for additional knowledge of his life the reader must rely mainly on the correspondence.